

Message Text

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UNCLAS BELGRADE 727

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TAGS: ETRD YO

SUBJ: YUGOSLAV STANDARDIZATION LAW IN PREPARATION

TO VIRGINIA YORIO

FOR J S WALKER, USYEC

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

570 LEXINGTON AVE

NEW YORK, NY 10022

TELEX RCA 234 698

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV STANDARDIZATION LAW IN PREPARATION

A. AT NEW CONFERENCE MR. MILAN KRAJINOVIC, DIRECTOR OF YUGOSLAV STANDARDS INSTITUTE REVEALED THAT NEW YUGOSLAV LAW ON STANDARDIZATION UNDER PREPARATION AND WILL PROBABLY BE PASSED BY END OF MARCH 77. LAW WILL PRESCRIBE THAT NOTHING CAN BE IMPORTED WITHOUT NECESSARY QUALITY CONTROL DOCUMENTS. QUALITY CONTROL WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY YUGOSLAV INSTITUTES AND LABORATORIES. KRAJINOVIC CLAIMS UNTIL NOW ONLY ABOUT FIVE PERCENT OF IMPORTED GOODS WERE SUBJECTED TO QUALITY CONTROLS.

B. HE QUOTED A FEW EXAMPLES OF GOODS IMPORTED WITHOUT EVEN INDICATION OF ORIGIN FOR WHICH IT WAS LATER ESTABLISHED THEY WERE OF VERY INFERIOR QUALITY. UNDER PRESENT REGULATIONS CUSTOMS OFFICE CANNOT STOP IMPORT OF SUCH GOODS AND IT IS NOW CONSIDERED MAJOR BLUNDER
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TO HAVE RELIED SOLELY UPON DUTIES, TAXES AND IMPORT RESTRICTIONS FOR PROTECTION OF YUGOSLAV MARKET AND END-USERS. KRAJINOVIC NOTED MANY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAVE VERY DEVELOPED REGULATIONS ON QUALITY CONTROLS.

C. FURTHER HE POINTED OUT THAT SAME REGIME OF CONTROL WILL BE IMPOSED ON DOMESTIC PRODUCTION FOR THE SAME REASON: IE PROTECTION OF END-USERS.

D. WITHOUT ANY FURTHER DETAILS AVAILABLE AT PRESENT ABOUT NEW LAW,
POST IS OF OPINION THESE PROVISIONS MAY HELP US EXPORT
OF QUALITY GOODS. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT IS NOT CLEAR WHO WILL BEAR
COST OF QUALITY CONTROL AND SHIPMENT OF SAMPLES. THERE ARE ONLY
A FEW QUALITY CONTROL INSTITUTIONS AT PRESENT. BOTTLENECKS AND
RED TAPE INHERENT IN THIS NEW REGULATION MAY DELAY DELIVERY AND
PAYMENT FOR GOODS.

E. PROBLEM MAY BE ALLEVIATED BY ACCEPTING FOREIGN CERTIFICATES
BUT THEIR ACCEPTANCE IS NOT CERTAIN YET.

R B LOMBARDI
ECONOMIC OFFICER
AMERICAN EMBASSY
BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA
TELEX 11529
YORK

NOTE BY OC/T: BELGRADE 727 PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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